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Assistant Superintendent  
Instructional Services

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Assistant Superintendent  
Business Services

**Michelle M. Morse, Ed.D.**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Human Resources

March 27, 2020

Dear Newhall School District Families,

This afternoon's update is designed to provide you with additional information on the Newhall School District distance learning plan which will launch Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>. This letter will update you on our plan regarding:

- technology access and distribution
- student attendance
- student work expectations
- student feedback and grading.

**Technology Access and Distribution:**

Your school administrators will be notifying you of their technology distribution plans. Technology devices will be distributed according to each site's schedule on Tuesday March 31st and will continue if needed on Wednesday April 1st. Our goal is to ensure your child has their own device to engage in our distance learning program beginning April 13.

**Attendance:**

Students are expected to be in class daily in order to be counted for attendance. The California Department of Education (CDE) has reminded all districts that compulsory attendance laws are still in effect and that districts must monitor the daily attendance of students. Your child's teacher will communicate the process that will be used for attendance. It might be answering a daily exit ticket question at the end of the day or submitting an assignment in math, just make sure your child understands the expectations.

**Student Work Expectations:**

Instruction will take place 4 days a week with assignments in English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. Tasks that will help students with exercise and outdoor play will also be included and count as Physical Education. Our music, art, and "WIN" teachers will also be integrating into the instruction model after our initial launch. Please communicate with your child's teacher for specific questions on instruction. Teachers will have "office hours" on Friday mornings during which they will meet with parents and students as needed as to support them in this new style of learning. Teachers will spend Friday afternoons virtually collaborating with their team and site on the upcoming week of learning.

We understand that families and their children may need to log into Google Classroom at various times over the course of a day. Lessons are designed for flexibility so that students do not have to always be in the Classroom at specific times; however, we do hope that you will work with your child's teacher to engage in the learning routines established by the grade level team.

**Feedback and Grading:**

Additional guidance from the California Department of Education has been given regarding feedback and grading. Teachers will be expected to provide ongoing feedback to students, and there will be an end of year report card.

When school closures were extended, teachers began work on completing the Trimester 2 reports cards, and they will be distributed to families on April 24th.

We are extremely excited to launch our new eLearning platform. Our teachers are working hard to create a meaningful learning environment for all students. We recognize that you may need additional training on how to support your child in the Google Classroom, so we are in the process of developing some videos for families to access from home. Additionally, we are in the process of creating a tech support line that will be open each day from 7:30 am-7:30 pm. Stay tuned for more information on these resources and be on the lookout for site-specific communication from your principal.

Sincerely,

Dee Jamison, Assistant Superintendent Instructional Services